BENGALURU, SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

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THE SUNDAY READ

Culture club

How where you're born influences the person you become

As early as the fifth century, the Greek historian Thucydides contrasted the self-control and stoicism of Spartans with the more indulgent and free-thinking citizens of Athens.

Today, unique behaviours and characteristics seem ingrained in certain cultures.

Italians wildly gesticulate when they talk. Dutch children are notably easygoing and less fussy. Russians rarely smile in public.

As developmental psychologists, we're fascinated by these differences, how they take shape and how they get passed along from one generation to the next.

Our 2018 book, "Toddlers, Parents and Culture," explored the way a society's values influences the choices parents make – and how this, in turn, influences who their kids become.

The enduring influence of cultural values

Although genetics certainly matter, the way you behave isn't hardwired. Over the past two decades, researchers have shown how culture can shape your personality.

In 2005, psychologist Robert McCrae and his colleagues were able to document pronounced differences in the personalities of people living in different parts of the world. For example, adults from European cultures tended to be more outgoing and open to new experiences than those from Asian cultures. Within Europe, they found that people from Northern Europe were more conscientious than their peers in Southern Europe.

Recently, we were able to trace some of these differences to early childhood.

Parenting – perhaps not surprisingly – played a role.

To conduct the research for our book, we worked with colleagues from 14 different countries. Our goal was to explore the way broad societal values influenced how parents raise their children. We then studied how these different parenting styles shaped the behavior and personality of kids.

We did this primarily by administering questionnaires to parents around the world, asking them to describe their daily routines, hopes for their kids and methods of discipline. We then asked them to detail the behaviors of their children.

We also relied on the work of Dutch social psychologist Geert Hofstede, who, in the 1970s, asked IBM employees around the world about factors that led to work satisfaction.

We were able to compare his findings to ours, and we were surprised to see that his results correlated with our own. The cultural values that were revealed through work preferences in the 1970s could be seen in parenting practices and child temperament 40 years later.

This is important: It shows cultural values are relatively enduring, and seem to have an effect on how kids develop over time.

To think about yourself, or to think of others?

Perhaps the most well-known of these broad cultural values are individualism and collectivism.

In some societies, such as the US and Netherlands, people are largely driven by pursuits that benefit themselves. They're expected to seek personal recognition and boost their own social or financial status.

In more collectivist societies, such as South Korea and Chile, high value is placed on the well-being of the larger group – typically their family, but also their workplace or country.

We found that the way parents discipline their children is strongly influenced by these social values, and likely serves to perpetuate these values from one generation to the next.

For example, compared to parents in individualist cultures, collectivist parents are much more likely, when reprimanding their kids, to direct them to "think about" their misbehaviour, and how it might negatively impact those around them.

This seems to promote group harmony and prepare a child to thrive in a collectivist society. At the same time, if you're constantly being told to think about how your actions impact others, you might also be more likely to feel anxiety, guilt and shame.

Indeed, we've found that kids in collectivist cultures tend to express higher levels of sadness, fear and discomfort than children growing up in individualist societies.

Are you free to go on a pursuit of happiness?

A second set of values we studied was indulgence versus restraint.

Some cultures, such as the US, Mexico and Chile, tend to permit and promote self-gratification. Others – like South Korea, Belgium and Russia – encourage restraint in the face of temptation.

These values seem to be connected to a specific set of parenting goals.

In particular, parents in indulgent societies tend to emphasize the importance of developing self-esteem and independence. For example, they expect children to entertain themselves and fall asleep on their own. When one of their kids misbehaves, they'll often suggest ways he or she can make amends and try to repair the damage.

The message kids may get from this kind of treatment is that they're the ones in control of their happiness, and that they should be able to fix their own mistakes. At the same time, when kids are expected to pursue gratification, they may be more likely to impulsively seek immediate rewards – whether it's eating candy before dinner or grabbing a toy off a shelf at a store – before getting permission.

Meanwhile, in societies that prioritise restraint, parents were more likely to shout or swear when disciplining their children.

This might make them more obedient. But it might also cause children to be less optimistic and less likely to enjoy themselves.

So is individualism going to be future?

Parents seem to be motivated to best prepare their kids for the world they're likely to inhabit, and what works in one culture might not necessarily work well in another.

But as our world becomes more interconnected, this diversity of parenting approaches may dwindle. In fact, most countries have become more individualistic over the last 50 years – a shift that's most pronounced in countries that have experienced the most economic development.

Nonetheless, there's still a huge difference in parenting styles and childhood development across cultures – a testament to the enduring influence of societal values.

"Compared to parents in individualist cultures, collectivist parents are likely, when reprimanding kids to ask them to 'think about' their misbehaviour

–From research for the book 'Toddlers, Parents and Culture'

Samuel Putnam, Bowdoin College and Masha A Gartstein, Washington State University for The Conversation

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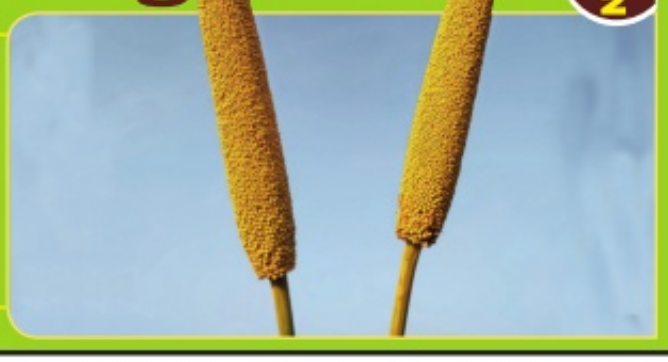
Grass is greener

CITY PAGE 2

Bengalureans cannot have enough of hottest item in restaurants



Karnataka is on fire

CITY PAGE 5

State records India's worst forest fires between March 18 and 24

Why state of MG Road footpath – overflowing with sewage and now an open urinal for miscreants – is a microcosm of urban infra in ruins

AN EYE SORE ON MG ROAD

Traffic police near Mayo Hall Junction unable to cope with odour

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Mahatma Gandhi Road in the heart of the city often hits headlines for peculiar reasons. For instance, there was a time when MG Road was a favourite destination for sex workers to solicit customers at night.

At present, considering the condition of a stretch of the footpath along MG Road, the father of the nation may turn in his grave, at the thought of having such shoddily maintained road named after him.

It is quite surprising and shocking to see the footpath of MG Road along the Rajendra Sinhji Army Officers Institute compound in a pitiable and unhygienic condition. The footpath has become not only a nuisance but also a health hazard for pedestrians, motorists and also those frequenting the premises of the institute.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

"What is the use of civic body wasting money on advertisements if it fails to keep a footpath on MG Road clean and neat?

— Hemanth Kumar, pedestrian

Deluge on their minds

Post flooding, residents promised a slew of measures; completion of work before monsoon uncertain

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The issue of flooding at Rainbow Drive Layout along Sarjapur Road is likely to persist as the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is unable to take up any work due to pending court cases.

The residents of Rainbow Drive Layout were one of the worst affected by last year's unprecedented floods perhaps triggered by extreme weather. Water overflowing from the Halanayakanahalli Lake entered the layout submerging houses and the community's precious belongings. Post the flooding, the residents were promised a slew of measures to de-flood the area. But it does not seem like work will be completed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Ethnic on your mind?

Catch a special Rajasthani handloom exhibition that is displaying ethnic and contemporary arts and crafts, clothing, handloom sarees, jewellery, home décor, furniture, and handicraft products direct from the artisans and craft persons from across India.
Where: Soudamini Kalyana Mantapa, JP Nagar;
When: Till April 2, 10 am – 8.30 pm
Phones: 89518 99961 / 94829 59786

02 All things vegan

Vegan lovers in the city are in for a treat this weekend, as the seventh edition of the much-awaited Namu Recommends Vegan Market is here. A 2-day vegan market, it will feature the A-Z of vegan brands from the country across multiple categories which include, meat and dairy alternatives, vegan snacks, spices, beverages, chocolates, gluten-free products, gourmet foods, personal care, household cleaning products, plant-based protein, nutraceuticals, cold-pressed cooking oils, condiments, ice cream and desserts.
Where: Bangalore International Centre
When: March 26, 12pm – 8pm

03 Wilderness Escapades

Watch 'Wilderness Escapades' a solo painting exhibition by artist Krishna Iyer. His exhibition paintings reimagine sculptures of Khajuraho temples in large format. 'Wilderness Escapades' references these sculptures and the underlying premises to create a spatial interplay of light, colour, and texture to suggest the form, postures, and gestures of the stone statues in a quasi-representational style.
Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
When: March 26

Where wild things are

An artist dressed as a tiger performs during the Bengaluru Habba festival, at Cubbon Park on Saturday

Going gaga over millets!

Millet dishes are the hottest item in restaurants and Bengalureans cannot have enough of it

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Ragi Manni is a tradtional dessert made of millets; (inset) foxtail millets are one of the popular types (images by food blogger Caroline Radhakrishnan)

Ever since covid became a part of everyday conversations, like many others, Indira, a homemaker, has been reading up and trying to inculcate healthy eating habits in her family.

She has included ragi in her diet, however, millets is something she is particularly interested in.

Indira is not the only one, and while millets been a part of our food culture for a long time, restaurants have started to only recently include them in their menu, catering to a growing demand for healthy and tasty food.

With 2023 being declared as the International Millet Year by the United Nations, millets are gaining familiarity among hoteliers and common people.

PC Rao, the President of Bangalore Hotels Association, said the rise in the use of millets was a result of the growing awareness of its health benefits. "Post Covid, people have prioritised their health over taste. Many hotels are adopting millets in their menu. The prices of each millet also play a role in determining the adoptation of millets in menus. However, the preparation of millet-based food is not quite easy; it requires a lot of experience," he said. He further stated that the association has planned on organising a training program for chefs of Bengaluru to learn cooking using millets.

Preeti Nagraj, owner of Millet's Mane Oota on Bannerghatta Road, said that when it comes to millets, they mostly sell batter-based food such as idlis, dosa and paddus, etc. She added that they use different millets every day including brown top millet which is the rarest millet to find. She further added that foxtail millet and banyan millet are popular among their customers.

While the prices of millet can be expensive, certain millet cafes run with the purpose of educating and creating awareness among common people. "The primary motive of starting this café is to create awareness about millets. On average, the price of a kg of rice starts from Rs 40 while the price of millet ranges from Rs 120," says Chandrashekar, the proprietor of Shree Organic Millet World.

At South Ruchi Group of Hotels, chairman GR Pradeep says they use millets grown in their farm. "We usually import millets grown from our farm to reduce the extra cost. Millets that are commonly used at our hotel include barnyard millet, little millet, ragi, great millet, and pearl millet. We create south Indian delicacies such as Pongal, Bisi Bele Bath, Karabath, Millet Thaali, and payasa out of millets. It is a healthier alternative to maida."

However, there are other hotels where the owners say that the customers are yet to accept millets as everyday food. Sandeep, the owner of Mandarathi Fast Food, said, "Our hotel specifically makes South Indian delicacies and we prefer to use ingredients that are familiar to our customers. We have not yet introduced any food items with millets in them to understand the preferences of our customers."

The lack of awareness about the benefits of millet is another hurdle faced by hoteliers in the city. "Currently, we have reduced the preparation of food items that require millets because of the minimal demand by the consumers," says the manager of Nammoora Thindi.

Road rage discussion but what's the solution?

Viral video of BMTC driver abusing cyclists renews debate about cyclists' safety

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Cyclists often face issues like cycle lane encroachment & harassment from drivers

A discussion about the safety of cyclists on Bengaluru's roads kicked off on Saturday after a video of road rage between a BMTC bus driver and two cyclists went viral on social media.

The incident took place on Saturday morning at Kanakapura Road near the Vajarahalli metro station.

"The incident happened when a BMTC bus came dangerously close to us and almost bumped into my friend. When my friend asked the driver to be careful and asked him why did he do it when the entire road was empty and we were on the extreme left, the driver started abusing him immediately," said Phaneesh Nagaraja, one of the cyclists.

A complaint was lodged by the cyclists at Thalagattapura Police Station where the driver was asked to submit a written apology and BMTC was informed about the incident.

"We have been cycling on the same road for more than 10 years and have faced constant abusive behaviour from BMTC and KSRTC drivers. But rarely they intentionally try to cause harm by driving dangerously close. It is also extremely unfortunate that the general public blame cyclists for cycling and justifies dangerous driving and road rage," he further told Bangalore Mirror.

The cyclists say that proper training and awareness programs should be conducted for the bus conductors and professional drivers to avoid such conflict in the future.

> **"Proper training and awareness programmes must be conducted for such drivers to avoid conflicts**
>
> –Phaneesh Nagaraja, a cyclist

"It is becoming a serious issue. Professional driving requires proper professional training just like any other profession where structured training programs are put in place which help to handle stressful jobs. Without that it leads to issues like this where other road users have to suffer and act as a punching bag," added Nagaraja.

Sathya Sankaran, the Bicycle Mayor for Bangalore, says that the public space needs to be evolved in such a way that the roads are divided into defined and manageable components to avoid these 'conflict zones'.

"No matter who is at the fault here, organisation of the road space is very critical now... The engineering and design of roads currently is really bad. There is no proper land width or segregation is not clear, the spaces are not defined. The roads have no markings, no boards, etc... More cycle lanes, more pedestrian footpaths, defined parking spaces for buses, clearly defined lanes, organised spaces with less ambiguity is the need of this hour... Maybe not in every state or every city, but with high traffic congestion like Bengaluru it is very important," Sankaran explained.

Meanwhile, the BMTC chief traffic manager told Bangalore Mirror that they will be taking necessary action against the said driver.

"I have seen the video going viral on Twitter and have followed up with the divisional officer for more details on the incident. We are waiting for the full report and will take action against the employee," said Rajesh.S, BMTC chief traffic manager.

Student murdered in Kaggalipura

A student whose body was found in Kaggalipura police station limits, may have been raped and murdered by four youths, according to the police.

When the student's body was found, three youths were said to have been next to the body and a fourth youth was seen taking images. By the time the police came, three of them had fled. The Kaggalipura police have arrested the fourth, Venkatesh, and are investigating. –BMB

'Have to speed up appointing judges'

Supreme Court judge Justice BV Nagarathna, who is poised to become India's first woman Chief Justice in 2027, said on Saturday that the issue of delay in the appointment of judges could have serious effects for democracy in general, and judiciary in particular.

Delivering the inaugural address at the fifth conference of Central government counsels from southern states in Bengaluru, Justice Nagarathna said: "The adequate manning of the judiciary at all levels by independent and fearless judges is necessary to ward off any semblance of interference from any quarter... The delay in critical matters concerning the judiciary such as appointment of judges could have serious effects for democracy in general, and judiciary in particular."

She added that there is a constitutional obligation upon the executive to effectively process appointments and transfer of judges recommended by the collegium of the Supreme Court within the earliest possible time, so that there are no vacancies in courts, which could hamper effective judicial functioning. –IANS

Minor girl dies after being sexually violated

A minor girl died in Karnataka's Ramnagar district after she was raped, police said on Saturday, adding that the accused has been arrested. The incident took place at the Tataguni village in the outskirts of Bengaluru.

According to the police, 17-year-old victim studying in Class 12 was raped at an isolated area near the village and she succumbed on the spot due to severe bleeding.

The police said that the girl was lured to the spot by the accused, who hailed from the same village.

Kaggalipura police have taken up investigation and the body has been shifted to the Rajarajeshwari Hospital.

The police have registered a case under the POCSO Act. –IANS

40-day-old baby kidnapped

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A 40-day-old baby, who was sleeping on her mother's lap, was abducted in Kalasipalya on Saturday. The accused, Nandini alias Ayesha, 27, who is a prior offender, had initially wanted to steal a mobile phone but then, kidnapped the baby. She was ultimately arrested by the Kalasipalya police.

The accused is a mobile thief and has been earlier arrested by the Halasuru Gate police. The police had then seized five stolen mobile phones from her.

The accused said that she had kidnapped the baby with the intention of keeping her. However, the police believe that Ayesha wanted to sell her off.

The baby's mother, Nadeem Farin Begum, a resident of Sarbandapalya, has three children. The baby girl, Sheikh Ayat, was born just 42 days ago.

The incident occurred when Nadeem was sleeping in the room with her two children on Saturday morning. Later, she fell asleep and the door of the house was open.

Ayesha came in around 7:30 am when she noticed the door was still open and grabbed the mobile phone in the hall. Noticing that no one was there, she picked up the child and ran away.

When the mother woke up from her sleep, she noticed the child and phone were missing and she informed her husband. The entire family was shocked and enquired at neighbouring houses and finally went to the police station and lodged a complaint.

Ayesha, meanwhile, was roaming near Magadi Road and was feeding the baby with a bottle. Observing this, two workers, Vishnu and Nagamma, who were in the area, asked her about the baby and she gave them strange answers. Suspicious, they then called the police control room and reported the incident.

After receiving this call, the Magadi Road Police immediately rushed to the spot and rescued the child and took Ayesha into custody. A senior police officer said that after several hours of interrogation, it was revealed that the child was kidnapped from Kalasipalya. Further investigations are on.

India's second longest metro network is here

Modi inaugurates 13.71 km Reach-1 extension from Whitefield (Kadugodi) to Krishnarajapuram

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Inset: Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with Bengaluru Metro rail staff during the inauguration of the Whitefield (Kadugodi)-to-Krishnarajapuram Metro Line in Bengaluru on Saturday

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 13.71 km Reach-1 extension from Whitefield (Kadugodi) to Krishnarajapuram on Saturday. With this, Bengaluru has become the Indian city with the second-longest metro network (69.66 km). Until now, Delhi had the longest network (349 km).

New Lines

The Phase-2 project of a 72.10 km (revised 75.06 km) route length was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs 30,695 crore in 2014. The network comprises four Phase-1 extensions and two new lines. The Reach-1 extension is from Baiyappanahalli to Whitefield (Kadugodi) at a length of 15.81 km.

The Reach-2 extension is from Mysuru Road to Challaghatta at 9.58 km, the Reach-3 extension is from Nagasandra to Madavara at 3.14 km, and the Reach-4 extension is from Yelachenahalli to Silk Institute at 6.12 km. Reach-5 is from Bommasandra to RV Road at 19.15 km and Reach-6 is from Kalena Agarhara to Nagawara at 21.26 km (new lines).

12-minute Frequency

The train's frequency will be 12 minutes. BMRCL hopes that the extension will result in incremental ridership of 1.5 lakh. As the KR Puram and Baiyappanahalli stations are yet to be connected by metro, BMRCL has arranged for feeder buses.

Other buses will cater to the movement of passengers between Krishnarajapuram and SV Road Metro Station. Limited two-wheeler parking facilities have been planned at the stations with adequate parking facilities for four-wheelers and two-wheelers at Krishnarajapuram and Whitefield (Kadugodi).

Service roads with entry/exit are provided around the stations in both directions, which will serve as BMTC bus stops and multimodal integration points. As KR Puram and Whitefield have railway stations as well, foot overbridges are planned connecting the stations directly with railway stations. BMRCL has widened Whitefield Road by adding three lanes in either direction.

National Mobility Card from March 30

Revenue operations on the Whitefield line begin from today at 7 am and the last train will be at 11 pm from both ends. However, from tomorrow, the revenue operations will start from 5 am to 11 pm from the terminal stations. Commuters travelling in this section have to purchase separate tokens/Mobile QR Tickets.

Modi used the first Rupay National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) of Namma Metro on Saturday to travel on the train. These Rupay NCMC cards of RBL Bank (the issuer bank for BMRCL) will be available to the general public from March 30 at metro stations.

BMTC feeder services will be available between Krishnarajapuram and Baiyappanahalli. BMRCL MD Anjum Parvez clarified that the feeder buses will not be free. A nominal charge will be taken.

The Phase 2 project of a 72.10 km (revised 75.06 km) route length was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs 30,695 crore in 2014

Why Rainbow Layout could flood again

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ahead of monsoon.

General secretary of Mahadevapura Task Force-Mobility, Clement Jayakumar told BM that to help mitigate flooding on Sarjapur Road, a widened roadside drain is being constructed: "The culvert has been constructed. These works will help prevent flooding on Sarjapur Road. But the RBD Layout might still get flooded this year. There are some court cases preventing work inside RBD."

He added that to divert water overflowing from Halanayakanahalli Lake, the drain has to be constructed either through RBD Layout or around it. However, the work might face difficulties in land acquisition.

"Either the residents must agree that they will comply with the existing rajakaluve route or they mutually agree on a specific route. Currently, residents have disagreed with both proposals," he added.

BBMP's stormwater drain department has taken up the drainage work around the RBD Layout.

"Only one-third of the work has been taken up as of now. Drain work is happening on the Sarjapur roadside but no work is being taken up to connect the Halanayakanahalli Lake to Sarjapur Road. Without this connection, water will flow through the layout and flood it. Earlier there were promises of constructing two drains for the east and west sides of RBD Layout. The whole stretch of rajakaluve to Sowl Kere needs to be widened. We hope the work is completed before monsoon," a resident of RBD Layout said.

Following the flooding, in August last year, residents of RBD Layout protested on Sarjapur Road blocking the entire stretch. According to residents, this was the fifth time in three months. To find a stop-gap measure, at an estimated cost of Rs 25 lakh, residents had planned a dam-like structure to block the overflow from Halanayakanahalli Lake but the Palike stopped the work.

In September, east division tahsildar issued notices to 13 residents for alleged encroachment of the stormwater drain. Residents and the Palike have been in contention as to whether a rajakaluve passes through the stretch or not.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Garbage accumulating

Belathur

A lot of garbage has accumulated on the platform beside Anjaneya temple in Belathur main road, Kadugodi for a year.

Danger?

Lingarajapuram

Vehicles often transport such material in Lingarajapuram. It can inconvenience motorists and cause accidents.

Take it down

Magadi Road

This poster near Magadi Road bus stop toll gate signal is blocking pedestrians.

VTU sends out 'follow rules' reminder

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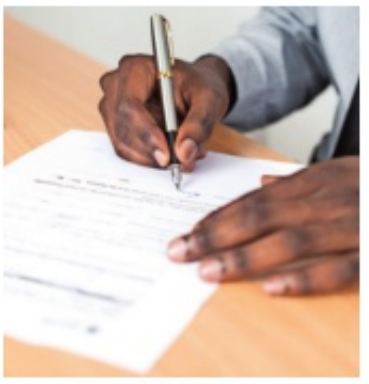
The Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), in a circular released on Saturday, has advised all its affiliated engineering colleges in the state to strictly adhere to the guidelines and quality norms by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

"...you are hereby directed to adhere to AICTE norms and standards in all respect and obtain AICTE approval for all the applicable programmes offered in your institution," the circular release by VTU read.

As per the AICTE Act released in 1987, it has been made mandatory for the supervising body to lay down norms and standards of technical education. Similarly, it is mandatory for all the institutions running technical courses to seek AICTE's approval and adhere to norms and standards with respect to course curriculum, physical and infrastructure facilities, faculty qualification, etc.

However, AICTE recently pointed out that a large number of institutions in many states do not adhere to AICTE norms fully and have been found deficient in respect of infrastructure, faculty and many other areas. Some institutions are also running technical courses that have not been approved by the AICTE, it added.



The VTU released a circular on Saturday as a 'formality'

"Whenever case of such unapproved technical institutions comes to the notice of AICTE, the name of such an unapproved institution is published in the AICTE portal under the list of unapproved institutions. A degree/diploma/certificates issued by such institutions are not valid. Such unapproved institutions must be directed by the State Government to seek AICTE approval to run the technical program/course. In case of non-compliance, the State Government must initiate action and ensure discontinuation of the technical courses by such unapproved institutes," a recent circular by AICTE said.

> **"...you are hereby directed to adhere to AICTE norms in all respects and obtain AICTE approval for all the applicable programmes offered in your institution**
>
> – VTU circular

The VTU Vice Chancellor told Bangalore Mirror that though there have been no such instances noted at the university recently, they have released the precautionary circular to ensure the norms are being followed.

"There are 220 colleges under VTU and just as a formality, we have released this circular following the notice released by AICTE," said Vice Chancellor Dr Vidyashankar S.

Karnataka is on fire

State records India's worst forest fires between March 18 and 24

The number of forest fire incidents over the last three years was not as high as this year

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Karnataka recorded the country's worst forest fires between March 18 and 24, according to the Forest Survey of India (FSI) reports. The state logged 437 major forest fire incidents over the last seven days, followed by Odisha (376), Maharashtra (249), Andhra Pradesh (180), and Madhya Pradesh (117).

Karnataka also features among the top five states when it comes to the number of fire alerts in 2022-23, since November 1, 2022. As many as 11,088 fire incidents were recorded in the state using spatial information through SNPP.

In the given period, Odisha had 17,055 fire incidents, Andhra Pradesh recorded 13,077 incidents, Telangana logged 7,740 fire incidents and Chhattisgarh had 5,627 incidents of forest fire.

> **This has been a unique forest fire season due to high temperatures, wind velocity. More than average rainfall last year led to higher quantum of biomass**
>
> – Forest Department official

According to the Karnataka Forest Department, higher fire incidents can be attributed to a combination of factors such as extreme weather conditions, high-tension electric wires, and disgruntled villagers.

"The number of fire incidents over the last three years, before this year, was less.

However, this has been a unique forest fire season due to the high temperatures and higher wind velocity. To add to that, more than average rainfall during the last monsoon season has also led to higher quantum of biomass, which implies above-average fuel accumulation on the forest floor. We have hardly had any rainfall over the last three months as well. All these factors have led to higher incidents of forest fire," said a senior official from the department.

However, experts say it is a complete lack of preparedness, monitoring, and accountability on part of the department that has manifested itself in a higher number of fire incidents.

"The biggest problem is the budget allotment for forest fire management. Instead of planning and focusing on prevention, the department ends up with knee-jerk reactions.

Forest fire management takes the last priority in the department's annual budget. They are more interested in carrying out civil work than devising prevention strategies for forest fire," said DV Girish, a wildlife conservationist from Chikmagalur.

Some allege that while forest fire lines must be created between January and February every year, the department is often lagging behind concerning the task. To add to that, the lack of forest watchers or foot soldiers makes the situation worse.

"Decision-makers in the department have limited understanding of forest fire or field conditions as they are sitting in their offices. Fireline creation and watch and ward are the two most important aspects of managing forest fires. While the department is often late with fireline creation, foot soldiers are often unhappy as they go without pay for months altogether. This is because the budget allocated is probably not reaching the ground level," said another expert.

Man running towards Modi caught

A man tried to run towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi's convoy during his roadshow in Davangere but was caught by security personnel on Saturday.

However, police denied any security breach in this regard.

The video of the man trying to approach Modi's car after apparently slipping through the security barricade has gone viral in the social media.

The man, learnt to be from Koppal, has been detained and was questioned, police sources said.

The Davangere Superintendent of Police CB Rishyanth ruled out any security breach."Nothing like that (security breach) happened. He was not even near the Prime Minister. He was caught well before that," Rishyanth told PTI.

ADGP Law and Order Alok Kumar tweeted : "As being reported in a section of media, there was no breach in security as such of Hon'ble PM at Davangere today. It was an unsuccessful attempt. He was caught immediately by myself and SPG at a safe distance. Appropriate action is being taken in this regard". -PTI

Cash, silver seized in pre poll check

In the wake of the approaching assembly polls, state police have stepped up security to put an end to election irregularities. For this, check posts have been made across the state and every vehicle is being inspected.

Nelamangala Town Police seized undocumented cash worth Rs 20 lakh during one such inspection.

Along with this, they seized a huge amount of silver items which were being distributed to voters.

They seized 48 kgs and156 grams of silver items that were being transported without documents on Tumakuru Road. The value of the seized silver items is estimated to be around Rs 20 lakh. Nelamangala rural police have taken two people into custody in connection with the incident. -BMB

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

THE KITE RUNNER

A kite perching on a tree branch

The picture was clicked by BM reader **Siddhanth Reddy**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Hymn of joy: Make way for Putani Express

Bal Bhavan undergoes transformation; therapeutic park to serve as play area for specially abled children

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Kids' favourite toy train, the Putani Express is back as Chief Minister Basavaraj S Bommai formally flagged it off at Bal Bhavan on Saturday. This iconic train was pressed into service from October 9, 1968. However, the train was derailed in 2019 due to the damage to the tracks. Despite demands from various quarters, the project to restore the train track has been in progress since it was derailed.

The toy train tracks are located in Bal Bhavan, which is spread across 12 acres inside the Cubbon Park premises. In fact, Bal Bhavan, which was a centre of attraction for children had over the years fallen into a bad shape with maintenance not being carried out at the premises. Finally, the place has got a new look. The major attraction is slated to be a therapeutic park, which is a first in the country and will serve as a play area for specially abled children.

The Bangalore Smart City Limited (BSCL) is recreating Bal Bhavan as part of a project estimated at Rs 6.5 crore. According to the project plan, Bal Bhavan's main entry, lake development, and inclusive park has been redesigned.

The inclusive park features sand pits, space for leisure play and therapeutic work, a planner box, seating areas, and a central mound.

The use of wheelchairs is possible in the therapeutic park. The play equipment has been designed in a way that includes wheelchair swings, carousel, see-saws, rock climbers, mountain climbers, roller slides, a basketball area, stepped seaters, play panels, wide stairway, and all of which are disabled-friendly, making it easier and accessible for every child to play.

According to an official, the idea is to keep the Bhavan people friendly.

"During the renovation of Bal Bhavan, the toy trains and other play equipment were retained. The basic structure has remained unchanged, and we have tried our best to keep the old look intact. Better benches will be installed for parents and the walking track will be made with pebble stones, so that toddlers and senior citizens can walk with ease," they said.

While at the entrance of the main gate, there will be fabrication with coloured flooring pattern, which would indicate the entry area of the Bhavan.

The ticket counter, railway station block, information kiosk, toilet at the entrance has been given an upgraded look. An online ticketing system will also be introduced shortly.

Chief Minister Basavaraj S Bommai flagging off the toy train in the Bal Bhavan premises

DID YOU KNOW?

Rava Idli was invented in Bengaluru. The popular restaurant, Mavalli Tiffin Rooms (MTR) is known to have invented this dish during World War II. Rava idli is basically semolina idli, which is generally served in restaurants known for Udupi cuisine. It is said that in the midst of war, when rice (the essential ingredient used in the preparation of idli) became scarce, the restaurant attempted to prepare idli using semolina instead, which resulted in the creation of rava idli. MTR is currently known to manufacture various types of packaged foods, including spices, snacks, breakfast mixes, and beverages. The dish can be enjoyed with saagu or coconut chutney. It is considered to be one of the healthiest breakfast dishes in south India.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

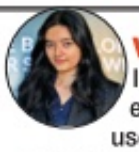
9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

How do you conserve water during summer?



Vaishnavi Acharya, BM Reader
I would prefer taking a short shower, and reusing the water which is used to wash cereals and greens. I water the plants in short sessions frequently, cultivate plants that require less water and can adapt to the summer season.

Disha Naik, BM Reader
Every drop counts, and by making small changes, we can make a big difference in saving water. For instance, I have started using water-saving nozzles for my taps, which saves up to 40% of daily water consumption. I don't let water run unnecessarily while washing utensils, and make use of leftover cooking water.

Naveen Kumar, BM Reader
Water conservation in summer can be achieved through limited usage, crisis storage, reducing wastage, reusing treated water.

Navya Jaideep, BM Reader
Conserving water is a very important part of our life, especially during summer. In my household, we do this by using the waste water from RO purifiers in mopping and washing. Saving electricity also in turn helps in conserving water.

Srinidhi, BM Reader
We can start off with rain water harvesting in every house. During summer, stop using showers which consume large amounts of water. Also plant drought resistant plants. Water your plants only in the morning to avoid losing water from evaporation. Cover your home pool.

Geetha Sudhindra, BM Reader
I will use the water used in the kitchen to wash vegetables and rice to water my plants in my garden.

SPEAK TO US

What improvement can be done in Bengaluru metro?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Siddaramaiah to contest from Varuna

Ending weeks of speculation, Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah has chosen Varuna to contest in the forthcoming Assembly elections. However, the first list of Congress party which was announced on Saturday has not announced any candidate for either Kolar or Badami constituencies. This has kept the rumours alive whether Siddu will choose to opt either of the two as a second constituency. Varuna in Mysuru district, which is currently represented by his son Yathindra Siddaramaiah. Yathindra's name does not figure for any other segment in the first list of 124 candidates. Siddaramiah, however said, he wants to contest from two seats. "I had said that it is left for the high command to decide (regarding the constituency). High command has asked me to contest from Varuna. I have said, I will contest from two constituencies, from Kolar and here, again it is left to the high command," Siddaramaih said, adding that his son Yathindra will not be contesting from any constituency.

POLL VAULT

Speculation runs rife over Kolar

Siddaramaiah, who currently represents Badami in Bagalkot district, had earlier announced that he will be contesting from Kolar, but backtracked after party leadership reportedly cautioned him regarding the 'risks' fighting from there. According to some party functionaries, Siddaramaiah, in the event of him winning from both the seats, plans to vacate Varuna seat, and field Yathindra from there in the subsequent bypoll. Names are yet to be finalised for the remaining 100 more seats. Karnataka has a total of 224 Assembly constituencies.

DKS from Kanakapura

Meanwhile, KPCC president DK Shivakumar is predictably contesting from Kanakapura. Addressing media persons, Shivakumar said, in the next three to four days the second list will also be announced. The first list mostly contains the seats represented by sitting MLAs, and the constituencies for which only one name was recommended by the state unit. Responding to a question on a few sitting MLAs not making it to the first list, Shivakumar said, "Almost 95 per cent of them will get, some clarifications and negotiations are going on, and there is no reason for anyone to worry."

Seniors make it to list

Among senior party leaders who have got the tickets include G Parameshwara- Koratagere, R V Deshpande- Haliyal, H K Patil- Gadag, M B Batil (campaign committee chief) - Babaleswar, Priyank Kharge (AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge's son)- Chittapur, KR Rameshkumar (former Speaker) -Srinivaspur, Eshwar Khandre (working president)- Bhalki, Satish Laxmanrao Jarkiholi (working president)- Yemkanmardi, K J George- Sarvagnanagar, Dinesh Gundu Rao- Gandhi Nagar.

Family contests

Interestingly, veteran Congress leader KH Muniyappa, the seven-time MP and former union minister, has returned to state politics, and has been fielded from Devanahalli, while his daughter and sitting MLA from KGF Roopakala M has once again got the ticket from the segment. The 91-year-old veteran leader Shamanur Shivashankarappa has once again got the ticket from Davanagere South, and so does his son, SS Mallikarjun from Davanagere North. Other father-son or daughter duo who have made it to the list are former minister M Krishnappa and son Priyakrishna from Vijayanagar and Govindraj Nagar segments, and former Minister Ramalinga Reddy (working president) and his daughter Sowmya R from BTM Layout and Jayanagar, respectively.

Darshan gets ticket

Darshan Dhruvanarayana, son of the party working president Dhruvanaryana, who passed away recently, has got the ticket from Nanjangud, and senior leader HC Mahadevappa, who was a ticket aspirant for this seat, has been fielded from T Narasipur. Iqbal Hussain HA has been fielded from Ramanagara to fight JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy's son, actor-turned politician Nikhil Kumaraswamy. Shivakumar had indicated about fielding his brother and Congress' Bangalore Rural MP DK Suresh from Ramanagara seat citing a message from the party leadership. However, Suresh had ruled out the possibility citing him being the lone Congress MP from the state and that he was not interested in state politics. Puttanna and UB Bankar, who recently crossed over to the BJP, have been fielded from Rajajinagar and Hirekerur, respectively.

Siblings fight

Fight between two siblings, the sons of former Chief Minister late S Bangarappa, is expected once again in Sorab, with Congress fielding Madhu Bangarappa from the seat, while BJP is likely to field sitting MLA Kumar Bangarappa from the segment, which is the family bastion. Among the candidates, about 30 are Lingayats, SCs- 23, Vokkaligas- 22, Brahmins- 5, among others. There are eight Muslim candidates in the first list.

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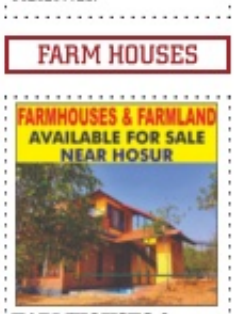

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TRUPTI LAXMIKANT BADIGER, W/o. Ravikumar Badiger, residing at No.I-0433 Parkside North By Brigade Hesaraghatta, Kammagondana halli, Jalahalli, Bangalore 560015 Karnataka, India., have changed my name to TRUPTI BADIGER, vide affidavit dated 20.03.2023 before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bengaluru.

I, AKKAMAHADEVI SARA WAD W/o. Vitthal, Residing at No.6A, 14th Main, 4th Cross Adarsha Layout, Hongasandra Bangalore 560068, Karnataka India, have changed my name to AKKAMAHADEVI, vide affidavit dated: 20.03.2023 before notary B V Nagabhu shana, Bengaluru.

I, Purnendu Shrivastava, R/o Flat No.205, Tower H Turquoise, Pbel City, K.V Rangareeddy, Telangana - 560086, Presently Camp at Bengaluru, Have Changed My Minor Daughters Name Vivanshi Shrivastava to Kiana Shrivastava for All Future Purposes.

I, D ROHAN S/o Ashok Kumar Dalmia, Residing at F-306, VDB Celadon, Nehru Nagar, Jakkur Main Road, Bangalore 560064 Karnataka, India, have changed my name to ROHAN DALMIA, vide affidavit dated 20.03.2023 before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bengaluru.

I Sarala Malanaik w/o Praveen Kamble R/at 60, 2nd Floor, 4th Main, Sri Rama Temple Street Vinayaka Nagar, Bagalur Cross, Yelahanka, Bangalore 560063 have changed name as Sarala Kamble before Notary Y V Shankar Bangalore

I, Hemavathi B S W/o Vasanth Kumar V R/o 1401,13th Main,6th Cross,Hal 3rd Stage,B'luru-560008 Have Changed My Name To Hema Vasanth Kumar Affidavit Dt.27/07/2011 Notary K.V Bachi Reddy, B'luru

I Dhatri Prasanna D/o Prasanna Naidu.B R/o No 2nd ,J-D, Slv Nilayam, Parandahalli Main Road, Robertsonpet, KGF Kolar District 563122 have chan -ged my name to Shree Dhatri Prasanna for all purposes.

I, Shanti W/o Ghouse Khan R/o #149, police Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalok South Chikpet B'lore-560053 have changed my name to Hajira Sultana.

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Virat Kohli arrives in town for 'RCB Unbox' event

Former Indian and Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper Virat Kohli arrived in Bengaluru on Saturday to attend the RCB Unbox event which will take place on Sunday.

RCB shared a picture of Virat Kohli on their social media handle to announce Virat Kohli's arrival in Bengaluru. "The wait is over and Virat Kohli is in Bengaluru! Happy HOMECOMING, KING!"

RCB unbox event will be a great opportunity for the fans to see their favourite stars like Faf Du Plessis, Virat Kohli, Glenn Maxwell, Rajat Patidar etc in the team's first practice session. Along with this, the official jersey for the upcoming edition of the IPL will also be unveiled. As former RCB teammates, Ab de Villiers, Chris Gayle and Virat Kohli reunite yet again. Their reunion will be more than special as Kohli's former teammates will be inducted into the RCB Hall of fame.

De Villiers represented the side from 2011-2021 in 157 matches. He scored 4,522 runs at an average of 41.10. He scored two centuries and 37 fifties for the side at a strike rate of over 158. While, Gayle represented RCB from 2011-17 in 91 matches, scoring 3,420 runs at a strike rate of over 154 and five centuries and 21 half-centuries. His best score is 175*.

RCB will start their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2023 season with a match against Mumbai Indians (MI) at their home arena, M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru. Last year, RCB qualified for playoffs and finished fourth in the competition after losing to Rajasthan Royals in qualifier 2 by seven wickets.

Royal Challengers Bangalore Squad strength: 25 players (overseas 8)

Players bought during IPL 2023 auction - Reece Topley (INR 1.9 crore), Himanshu Sharma (INR 20 lakh), Will Jacks (INR 3.2 crore), Manoj Bhandage (INR 20 lakh), Rajan Kumar (INR 70 lakh), Avinash Singh (INR 60 lakh).

Players retained - Faf du Plessis (c), Virat Kohli, Suyash Prabhudessai, Rajat Patidar, Dinesh Karthik, Anuj Rawat, Finn Allen, Glenn Maxwell, Wanindu Hasaranga, Shahbaz Ahmed, Harshal Patel, David Willey, Karn Sharma, Mahipal Lomror, Mohammed Siraj, Josh Hazlewood, Siddarth Kaul, Akash Deep. —ANI

What MG Road footpath reveals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Traffic police constables who are posted near Mayo Hall Junction on MG Road are finding it difficult to cope with the odour and sewage overflowing from the manhole on the footpath.

"We have complained to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) but nothing has been done yet. It is difficult for anyone to stand here for a few minutes due to the bad odour and stagnant sewage on the road," said a traffic police constable.

He said he and his colleagues have uploaded the pictures of the footpath and the road on BBMP's civic grievance redressal app but still there is no response from the civic body.

Pedestrians are not able to walk on the footpath as it is full of overflowing sewage.

"I happened to visit Mayo Hall for a personal purpose. I witnessed the bad condition of the footpath. This stretch on MG Road is being misused by miscreants. It has not only become an open urinal but also a destination for a few drivers to leave empty liquor bottles after consumption of alcohol. I have already complained to the BWSSB engineer about the overflowing sewage from the manhole," said BR Chandran, a social activist.

The area has become a parking lot for cars, auto rickshaws and other vehicles. It is alleged that auto rickshaw and cab drivers are using the footpath to attend nature's calls.

"I prefer to cross the road to walk on the footpath on the other side than walking on this dirty and stinky sidewalk. The BBMP has been spending money on advertisements and publicity to highlight their efforts to make Bengaluru a beautiful, clean and neat city but what is the use of wasting money if they fail to keep a footpath on MG Road clean and neat?" asked Hemanth Kumar, a pedestrian.

When this correspondent visited Rajendra Sinhji Army Officers Institute, an army officer said some people are using the compound wall of the institute to attend nature's call. "We have complained to the authorities concerned about the misuse of our compound wall. We will fix water leaking from the compound wall but we cannot fix the manhole issue," said the army officer.

Meanwhile, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) executive engineer Roopa said she would look into the matter. "I will depute a jetting machine vehicle to clear the manhole that is choked with sewage and other waste materials. The overflowing manhole issue will be fixed without any delay," said Roopa.

HEALTH TIP: Setting limits on the time you give to others can help you manage stress while recovering from burnout

Omelettes are an easy and versatile way to add veggies into your meal plan

BangaloreMirror | 11
Sunday, March 26, 2023
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East Asian delicacies

These two recipes are time tested and are steeped in history. Plate them up for a slightly offbeat meal

8 TREASURE MOCHI

A dessert that has Chinese roots, but over time became the household favourites of Japan and Korea. Mochi is a traditional Japanese rice cake made from glutinous rice and typically filled with sweet or savoury fillings.

INGREDIENTS

Pastry
- 600gm cooked glutinous rice flour
- 300gm icing sugar
- 400ml water
- 100ml shortening

Filling
- 100gm honey fig
- 100gm date
- 100gm sesame seed white roasted
- 50gm peanut butter
- 50gm honey

METHOD

For the skin dough
- Sift together 1 cup of cooked glutinous rice flour and 1/4 cup of icing sugar. Create a well in the centre of the dry ingredients and add 1/2 cup of water and 1 tablespoon of shortening. Knead the mixture well until it forms a soft dough. Allow the dough to rest for 20 minutes. Divide the dough into 20 equal pieces, each weighing approximately 20 grams. Flatten each dough ball into a circle and place a portion of the filling in the centre. Fold the dough over the filling like a dumpling, making sure to seal the edges. Place the mochi on a flat surface.

Prep Time: 30 mins **Serves** 20

For the filling
- Combine all ingredients for the filling. Divide the mixture into 20 equal portions, each weighing approximately 20 grams. Roll each portion into a ball.

HAINANESE CHICKEN RICE

This delectable Singapore street hawker favourite looks simple but packs a flavour punch. It is deceptively simple but Hainanese chicken rice does not want for flavour, packing chicken goodness into the silky poached meat, fragrant rice and tangy chilli sauce.

INGREDIENTS
- 1 whole chicken (about 1.5kg)
- 2 cups of jasmine rice
- 4 cups of chicken stock
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2-inch piece of ginger, peeled and sliced
- 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon of sesame oil
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 1 teaspoon of sugar
- Sliced cucumbers and tomatoes, for garnish
- Chopped coriander leaves, for garnish
- Chili sauce, for serving

For the chicken dipping sauce
- 1 tablespoon of grated ginger
- 1 tablespoon of minced garlic
- 3 tablespoons of light soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon of dark soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon of sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon of sugar
- 1 tablespoon of rice vinegar
- 1/4 cup of chicken stock

METHOD
- Rinse the chicken and pat it dry with paper towels. Rub the chicken with salt and let it sit for 15 minutes. In a large pot, bring enough water to cover the chicken to a boil. Carefully lower the chicken into the pot, breast-side down. Lower the heat to medium-low and simmer for 30 minutes. Turn off the heat and let the chicken sit in the pot for another 15-20 minutes, until fully cooked. Remove the chicken from the pot and let it cool. Reserve 4 cups of the chicken stock for cooking the rice. Rinse the rice several times until the water runs clear. Drain the rice. In a large pot, heat the vegetable oil and sesame oil over medium heat. Add the garlic and ginger and stir-fry until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the rice and stir-fry for another 2-3 minutes, until the rice is coated with the oil. Add the chicken stock, salt, and sugar to the pot. Bring the mixture to a boil, then lower the heat and simmer for 18-20 minutes, until the rice is fully cooked and fluffy. While the rice is cooking, carve the chicken into pieces. To make the dipping sauce, combine all the ingredients in a bowl and mix well. Serve the chicken and rice hot, garnished with sliced cucumbers and tomatoes, chopped coriander leaves, and chili sauce.

Prep Time: 30 mins **Cooking Time:** 15 **Serves** 4-6

Chef Kuan Lai, Founder of Kuan Kitchen Klub, SA, Courtyard by Marriott Outer Ring Road

All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I've been with my girlfriend for six years and we live together in a rented flat. We had a row last week over the same thing that causes all our arguments - my girlfriend hates my mess.
She also hates that I'm working from home, hates that I can't make a sandwich without wrecking the kitchen, hates that I leave my work stuff lying around.
Anyway, the row spiralled quite a bit and she ended up saying that we should live separately. It feels like a backward step to me, as we're both in our mid-30s and I was hoping to move the relationship on, start a family and so on. What do you think?

COLEEN SAYS

Well, if she finds it so hard to live with you now when it's just the two of you, she might be thinking how would we cope if kids came along?
And she might be having serious doubts about spending her life with someone who is not on her wavelength when it comes to sharing a home. It's all very well for you to think about and plan for the future because there's nothing bothering you about her. She's not on the same page because she's constantly clearing up your mess.
So, what do you do about it? I'd suggest pulling your finger out and making a proper effort to be tidier.
Why not ask your girlfriend to give you some time to prove to her that you can be better? It's about respect at the end of the day. You not caring shows a lack of respect for the home you share and for her. If you worked in an office, you wouldn't turn that into a tip, so don't do it at home.
We all have days or times when we can't be bothered, but if you're messy and lazy all of the time, then of course it's going to be very annoying. If you really love her and want things to work, I don't think tidying up after yourself is a lot to ask.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

Chai-Time

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SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

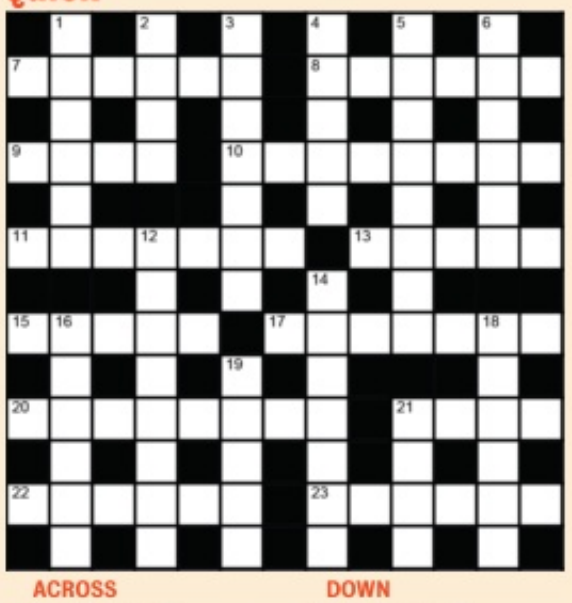
Pick a number from 102 to 9876. All digits must differ. Subtract its reverse & add resultant digits.

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.

Quick



ACROSS

7 Treelike grass (6)
8 You will find the Bangalore Golf Club on this road (6)
9 Poker opener (4)
10 Made a gap in, broke through (8)
11 Indian flat bread (7)
13 Genesis or inception (5)
15 Become limp (5)
17 Join together (7)
20 Birth to death (8)
21 Bench or pew (4)
22 Car's bumper (6)
23 Go beyond, overshoot (6)

DOWN

1 Set in motion (6)
2 Competent (4)
3 National park in Uttar Pradesh (7)
4 Off-center (5)
5 Operating or functioning? (2,6)
6 Begrudge (6)
12 Profits, yield or earnings (8)
14 Eternally (7)
16 Elevates (6)
18 Small villa (6)
19 Nearly two pints (5)
21 Pillage or loot (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: S EQUALS G

T GTZ HCV PTEEMQF T PTR WI RCQ RTMA AQTEZF FVGQRC-MZS CQ PTZ AQTEZ MZ ZV VRCQE HTI.

Linemaro

What fantastic earlobes you have!

Mindchow

Sandwich every bit of criticism between two layers of praise

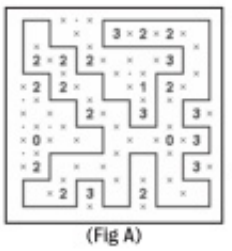
Joke of the day

So David Beckham's career is over, but on the bright side, at least now he has something in common with his wife

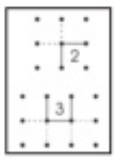
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



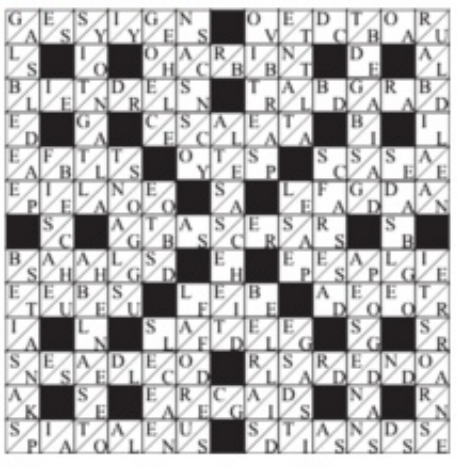
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

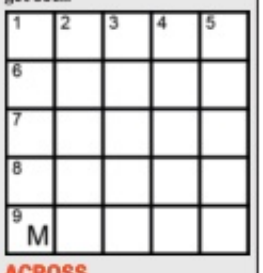
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

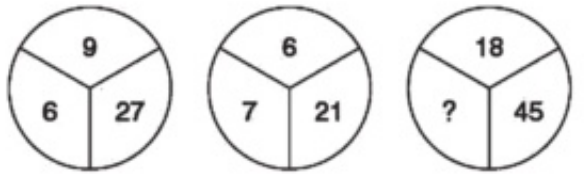
1 Be pro; 6 Irate; 7 Choir; 8 Tents; 9 Mr Hit

DOWN

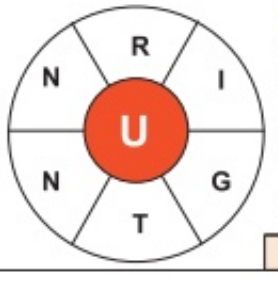
1 Prims; 2 Trice; 3 Throe; 4 Tobin; 5 Hater

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

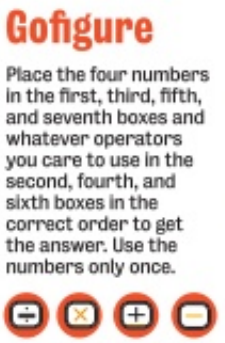
SudokuChallenge

	9		3			8	5	
		2			4			
3		7	5	8				
9			4	6				
	8	1				4	9	
				1	8			6
				4	5	3		8
			2			9		
	1	5			9		4	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

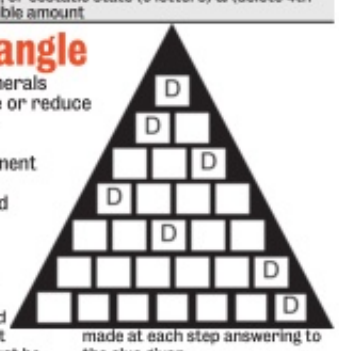
Differences: 1. Rug is moved. 2. Dresser is wider. 3. Headboard is larger. 4. Picture is moved. 5. Tie is different. 6. Lamp is missing.

Riddler

Each pair of definitions is for two words, where the second word is the first word with a letter deleted (example: brand & band). The length of the first word in each pair is provided, along with the position of the deleted letter to obtain the second word. 1) covered with soft thick hair (5 letters) & (delete 3rd letter) violent anger, wild rage 2) a fabric made of fibrous material (5 letters) & (delete 5th letter) to coagulate 3) the relative resistance of a material to scratching or denting (8 letters) & (delete 4th letter) the straps by which a parachute is fastened to a person 4) a hypnotic, cataleptic, or ecstatic state (6 letters) & (delete 4th letter) a barely perceptible amount

Alpha triangle

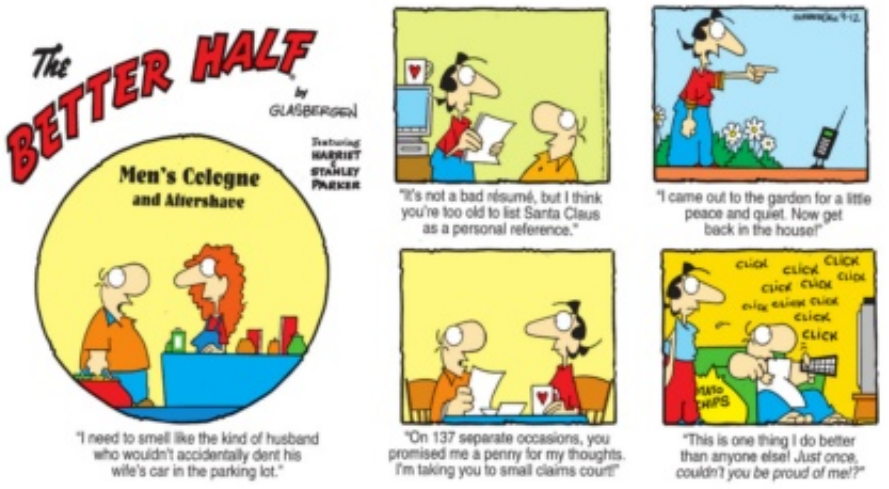
1 500 in Roman numerals
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Colour of danger
4 Costly
5 Nucleus of a regiment
6 Tracked down
7 Made or produced

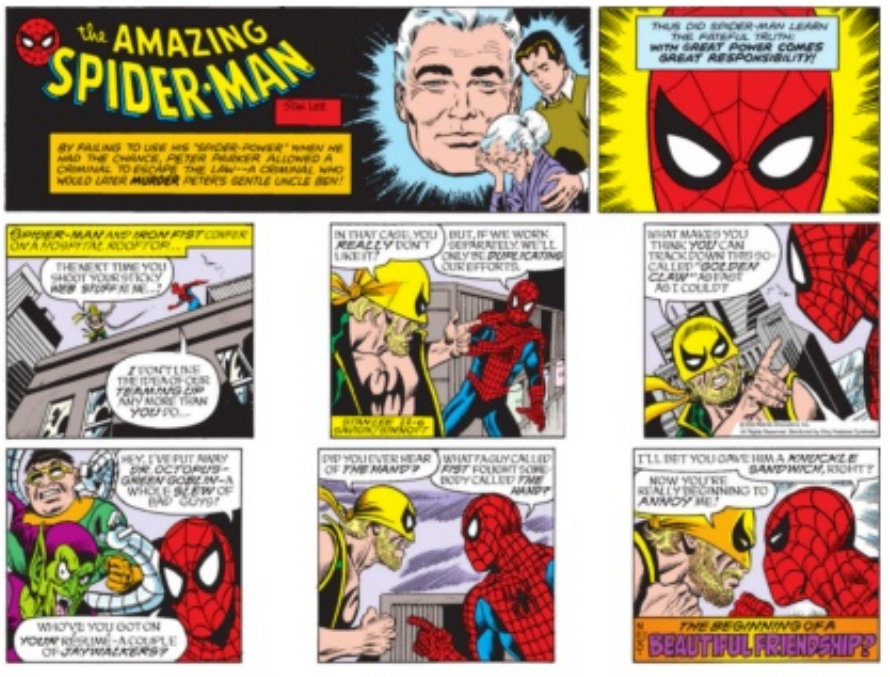


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS





WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today might not be the best day for you as you may face obstacles in your work. You should avoid making quick decisions in business. Be patient with your investments and avoid spending money on worthless things that could upset your family.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Your hard work will pay off today and you may receive good news regarding your siblings. You may plan a short work-related trip, and your subordinates will support you in implementing your business plans. Your opponents may even praise your efforts.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You will likely control your expenses and plan to invest capital in business. Consider investing your savings in real estate, which could boost your financial health. You will be polite with others, but your spouse may become upset or experience some health issues.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you will feel strong and efficient in implementing your plans, but be sure to read documents carefully before signing them. Avoid investing in family business due to over-enthusiasm, and love birds should avoid discussing worthless topics.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may feel anxious and restless, wasting precious time on worthless tasks. Seeking peace of mind by visiting a spiritual place may be helpful. You may receive advice from elders to help manage any messy situations.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you will re-establish your network during a social gathering, which may benefit you in the future. People related to glamour, art, and fashion may plan something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform well in their studies, and love birds will enjoy happy moments.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, work will keep you busy, making it difficult to spend time with family. Be careful with investments and take note of opportunities to create overseas networks. Job seekers may even receive a promotion.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may receive rewards for your hard work, and your business gains may increase. It's a good time to rei nitiate any postponed projects and plan for peaceful religious travel. Consider donating to charity or needy people.

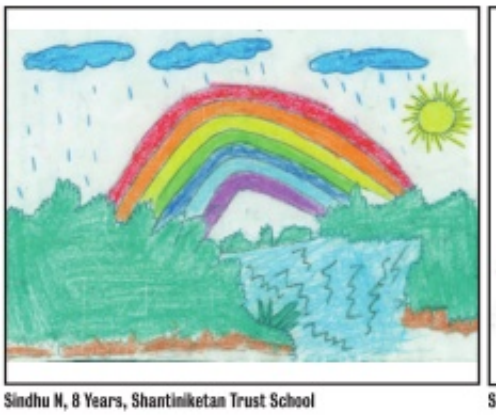
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, your health may be a concern, and you may face losses in business or investment. Avoid investing in worthless objects and getting involved in controversies, which could lead to negative consequences.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may receive good news regarding your profession, and your domestic life will be joyful. Avoid arguments on worthless topics and make important decisions about investing in real estate. Students may be focused on their studies.

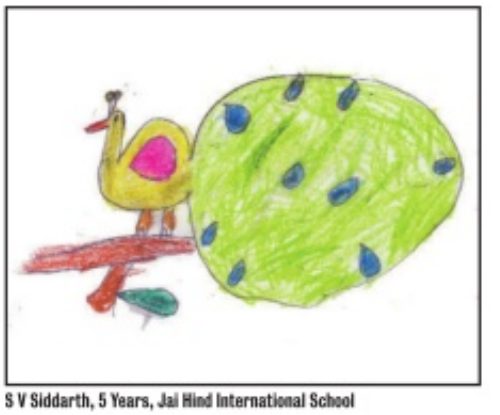
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may feel a bit dull today, but you'll likely return to work and pay extra attention to your children's academics. You may also find yourself in a winning position against enemies and opponents. Investors should be careful when making difficult decisions, and job seekers may find a suitable job.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
It seems like today may be a bit challenging for you. It's always important to trust your judgment and take independent decisions, especially when the people around you may not be very supportive. Remember to stay positive and focus on the things that matter to you. Take care of yourself and try to avoid investing in anything that may not be worthwhile.

KIDZONE



Sindhu N, 8 Years, Shantiniketan Trust School



S V Siddarth, 5 Years, Jai Hind International School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Let the number be abc
Reverse number is cba
Difference (100a+10b+c)-(100c+10b+a)
Difference =99(a-c)
For any different values of abc, the sum of the digits of 99(a-c)=18

RIDDLER
1) furry & fury,
2) cloth & clot,
3) hardness & harmness,
4) trance & trace

BULL'S EYE
grunt, ruin, runig, rnug, runt, tunirg, turn, TURNING, unit

FAST FIVE

P	R	O	B	E
R	E	T	I	A
I	C	H	O	R
S	T	E	N	T
M	I	R	T	H

STRIKE OUT

A	S	S	I	G	N		V	E	C	T	O	R		
S	O		H	A	B	I	T		T	A	B	A	R	D
L	I	N	D	E	N		T	A	B	A	R	D		S
E		A		E	C	L	A	T		B		I		
E	F	I	S		Y	E	S		C	A	S	A		
P	I	A	N	O		A		E	A	G	A	N		
	C	A	B	S	C	E	S	S		B				
S	H	A	G	S		H		P	E	A	L	E		
T	U	B	S		F	E	E		D	E	E	R		
I		L		A	D	L	E		G		R			
N	E	E	D	E	D		L	A	R	E	D	O		
	T		T		V		A		L					
S	A	I	T	A	N	S		S	T	A	N	D	S	

QUICK

L	A	C		A		I		R						
	U		L		R		K		A		S			
B	A	M	B	O	O		S	A	N	K	E	Y		
	L		U											
A	N	T	E		B	R	E	A	C	H	E	D		
	C		E		W		T		N					
C	H	A	P	A	T	I		B	I	R	T	H		
	R		T		F		O							
O	R	O	O	P		G	O	N	O	N	E	C	T	
	A		C		L				R		H			
S		S		E		R		K		T				

MENSA PUZZLE
5: 5 * 18 = 90; 90 ÷ 2 = 45. Similarly 7 * 6 = 42. 42 ÷ 2 = 21

QUOTE UNCODE
A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way.

SUDOKU

1	9	6	3	2	7	8	5	4
8	5	2	6	9	4	1	7	3
3	4	7	5	8	1	2	6	9
9	7	3	4	6	2	5	8	1
7	6	9	1	4	5	3	2	8
5	2	4	9	1	8	7	3	6
6	8	1	7	5	3	4	9	2
4	3	8	2	7	6	9	1	5
2	1	5	8	3	9	6	4	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, DE, Red, Dear, Cadre, Traced, Created.

LOOP

QQ FIGURE
Easy
8 + 3 - 1 - 7 = 3
Medium
5 + 6 + 9 / 4 = 5
Hard
6 x 4 / 4 x 4 = 24

KAKURO

Volume No 15, Issue No 42 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22325 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Wrapped up, with joy

Actress Nushrratt Bharuccha and Soha Ali Khan are over the moon as they wrapped up shoot for the horror film 'Chhorii 2'. On Instagram, Soha shared a video of the two jumping with joy

Heart-stopper

Hrithik Roshan has been highly vocal about his relationship with singer-actress Saba Azad lately. The adorable couple is quite regular on each other's social media posts. A case in point is Hrithik Roshan's recent Instagram Stories. While speculation is rife about the couple's marriage there hasn't been any confirmation from the pair. However, the social media PDA from Hrithik and Saba is keeping their fans busy just like Hrithik's latest Instagram entry. The dashing actor was all hearts for Saba's new pictures and it made fans all too excited.

Saba Azad shared a few pictures in a sequined silver saree with a matching backless sequined blouse and left her long wavy hair open. The dewy makeup and red lips complimented her desi look. While in the first picture Saba can be seen playing with her hair and giving a sultry pose. The next picture sees the singer leaning backward and looking straight toward the camera. Meanwhile, the third one is a beautiful closeup of her face.

Within moments Saba's post went viral as fans couldn't stop gushing over her beauty. However, what grabbed

everyone's attention is Hrithik Roshan's comment as he wrote 'I see you' with a red heart emoji.

—ETimes

Style bomb

Anushka Sharma has been dishing out style goals with her recent outings. The actress first stunned in an offshoulder purple gown as she accompanied hubby Virat Kohli for an event, and continued the style game with another glamorous look at a fashion event.

On Saturday, Anushka shared a series of pictures from her recent photoshoot, wherein she rocked a thigh-high slit black gown.

Hailing Anushka Sharma's style, Karan Johar posted on his Instagram stories, "Anushka Sharma is exceptionally stylish

and so individualistic in her approach to fashion... Nailing every look... Always! That's all." Anushka reacted to KJo's post with a loving heart emoji.

LIVING HER DREAM

... And how? Shraddha Kapoor says it is because of audience's love

Actress Shraddha Kapoor agrees that there is a "big sense of responsibility" on her shoulders as so much hopes are riding on her when it comes to her performances. She said that it is because of the love she gets from the audiences, who she says is the reason behind living her "childhood dreams".

With so much love coming her way and hopes riding on her, does Shraddha, whose latest release is 'Tu Jhooti Main Makkaar', feel the pressure?

In a conversation, Shraddha said: "It definitely adds a big sense of responsibility. I feel that I am here to entertain people and I want to keep doing that. I need to be a part of films that will provide that."

The actress added: "So, I take that kind of responsibility and yes, it's also inspiring and all the energy and inspiration comes from the audiences... They are the reason I have been able to live my childhood dream. It does feel like there is pressure and responsibility."

Looking forward, Shraddha has the second installment of the 2018 comedy horror film 'Stree'.

—ETimes